

The Role of the National Anti-Corruption Coordinator

The Minister of State for Public Administration and Anti-Corruption, in the role of the National Anti-Corruption Coordinator, coordinates the work on drafting policies and preparing legal and sub-legal acts for the prevention and fight against corruption.

The National Anti-Corruption Coordinator is responsible for carrying out the verification (administrative investigation) of denunciations/complaints for abusive, corrupt or arbitrary practices for the implementation of the law, as well as the identification of employees of institutions, part of the Network of Anti-Corruption Coordinators, who, through actions or inaction, have committed violations of the legal/sub-legal acts in force, as well as at the same time the development of projects and programs in the field of anti-corruption, planning, coordination and definition of the necessary instruments for the implementation of policies in the field of anti-corruption.

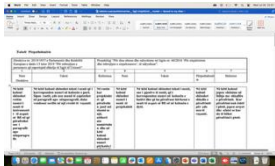
The electronic bulletin is a broad communication tool that aims to inform through the reflection of a summary of the main activities developed by the Minister of State for Public Administration and Anti-Corruption and the General Directorate of Anti-Corruption in the anti-corruption field, on a monthly basis..

Activities during the month of July, 2025

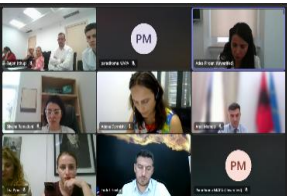
The package of anti-corruption laws is supplemented with three new draft acts

1-31.07.2025: The drafting of the anti-corruption law package has been supplemented with three other legal acts referring to the regulation and sanctioning of three corruption prevention instruments: whistleblowing, sponsorships and donations, and lobbying. Technical and consultative meetings of the Inter-institutional Working Groups, established by three orders of the Prime Minister, have been implemented under the direct coordination of the management team of the General Directorate of Anti-Corruption..

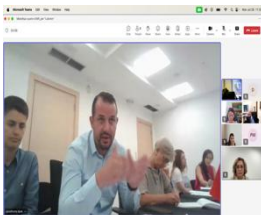
Draft law on whistleblower reporting and protection: During July 2025, 4 meetings of the Inter-institutional Working Group established by the Prime Minister's Order No. 65, dated 28.5.2025, and 4 meetings of the technical secretariat were held. The new legal framework for whistleblower reporting and protection is expected to be aligned with EU Directive 2019/1937 within 2025. The new law is expected to guarantee more protection for whistleblowers, protection in the workplace, the use of judicial remedies, as well as protection from retaliation in cases of threats. Whistleblower mechanisms will be extended to many sectors of public activity and to enterprises with 50 staff. The draft law is expected to be published for public consultation and coordination between public institutions.



Draft law on sponsorships and donations in the public sector: On 23.07.2025, the first (online) meeting of the Inter-institutional Working Group established by Prime Ministerial Order No. 103, dated 17.7.2025, was held. The drafting and approval of a new and consolidated legal framework for sponsorships and donations in Albania will harmonize these two anti-corruption mechanisms and will regulate the interaction of public administration and private entities that show interest in cooperating with it. The new legal framework is expected to establish control structures and guarantee public transparency in the receipt and use of funds and material and non-material support by administrative staff. The technical secretariat at the General Directorate of Anti-Corruption has finalized the preliminary legal analysis that will serve for the drafting of the law. This initiative will be supported by the EU4GG project of the EU Delegation in Tirana until the finalization of the adoption of the law.



Draft Law on Lobbying in the Republic of Albania: On 28.07.2025, the first (online) meeting of the Inter-Institutional Working Group established by the Prime Minister's Order No. 104, dated 17.7.2025, took place. The Law on Lobbying is the first act that will regulate this activity in the country and will provide guarantees for contacts and relationships of public officials (political and technical) outside of personal influences during decision-making. The drafting and consolidation of this legal act will be assisted by the Council of Europe office in Tirana, which has also enabled the preparation of a preliminary legal analysis for it..



All three of these legal initiatives are led by the Minister of State for Public Administration and Anti-Corruption, Ms. Adea Pirdeni. The working groups are composed of representatives of the Ministries of Justice, Finance, Economy, Education and Sports, and the Department of Public Administration. The drafting of the three laws marks an important step towards strengthening the legal basis for preventing corruption and raising integrity standards in public administration. These three legal acts, together with the one on conflict of interest and financing of political parties, which have begun to be discussed in the Albanian Parliament, will complete the country's anti-corruption regulatory framework.



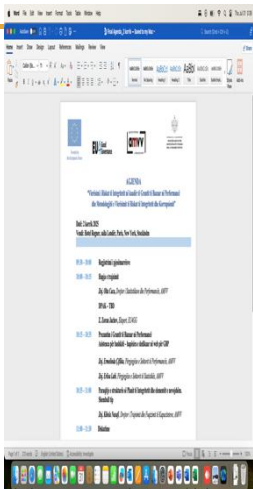
The institutional discussion on the law "On Lobbying" begins”

21.07.2025: The Minister of State for Public Administration and Anti-Corruption and the General Directorate of Anti-Corruption organized the first national consultative roundtable on the legal framework “On Lobbying”. Technical staff, representatives from Line Ministries, independent institutions, representatives from justice bodies were introduced to the legal initiative to regulate lobbying, as a cooperation mechanism that influences policy-making processes and can be a cause for corruption. The roundtable was facilitated by the Council of Europe expert, Vita Habjan Barboric, who presented the technical document on the need to draft a legal framework for lobbying in Albania. Currently, there are only a few rules on lobbying for MPs and ministers, with the relevant part for high-level executive and administrative management unregulated. Judicial bodies and local authorities are also outside this regulation. The basic principles of a law on lobbying, international experiences and best practices of the Council of Europe member states, mechanisms for ensuring transparency in the interaction between the private sector and public authorities were widely discussed at this roundtable. The roundtable was facilitated by the Council of Europe, Tirana within the framework of the project “Action against Economic Crime in Albania”.



Local government administration joins discussions and familiarization with integrity mechanisms

02.07.2025: Local government administrations of 61 municipalities discuss corruption risk and integrity mechanisms. Employees of all levels of municipalities discussed the assessment of integrity risk as part of their performance that affects the benefit of the performance-based grant. The Agency for Local Self-Government Support and the General Directorate of Anti-Corruption supported by experts from the European Union EU4GG project in Tirana provided guidance to municipal administrations to increase their focus on the mechanisms needed for the drafting and implementation of Integrity Plans, as well as for the effective management of corruption risk. The discussions and interaction between them focused on the importance of strengthening capacities for institutional integrity, corruption prevention, as well as strengthening monitoring and reporting mechanisms at the local level. The roundtable constitutes an important step towards improving local government capacities and strengthening transparency and accountability, as foreseen in the Cross-Sectoral Anti-Corruption Strategy, 2024-2030. Municipal administration will be part of the assessment of functional standards in the coming years by the European Commission and the Council of Europe.





July 2025: The General Directorate of Anti-Corruption processes 5 administrative measures, 16 recommendations and 1 criminal report

**1-31.07.2025:** The General Directorate of Anti-Corruption has continued to verify cases based on complaints received from citizens, corruption indications received by the staff of the Investigation Directorate and the Anti-Corruption Coordinators. During July 2025, 5 final reports were concluded through which 5 administrative measures and 16 recommendations were proposed for public authorities and their employees who have not respected the regulatory framework in force. These measures are mainly addressed to employees of the Local Directorates of the State Cadastre Agency, the Mandatory Health Insurance Fund, the Health Care Service Operator, as well as for the National Inspectorate of Territorial Protection. The recommendations have focused mainly on improving the implementation of the law, reviewing and updating the internal regulatory framework, guaranteeing the provision of public services within the legal deadlines, as well as increasing the quality of services

provided to citizens and the public. A suspected case of abuse of office (provided for by Article 248 of the Criminal Code) has been filed with the Prosecutor's Office at the Court of First Instance of General Jurisdiction in Tirana. The General Directorate of Anti-Corruption continues to be in constant communication with the institutions to closely follow the progress of the implementation of these measures and recommendations, ensuring effective monitoring and support for the further improvement of administrative processes and services to citizens.

20 years of RAI Summer School; UNCAC and UNTOC discussed for 3 days

**2-04.07.2025:** The Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative – RAI, organized the 20th edition of the Summer School. Podgorica in Montenegro hosted participants from 9 RAI member countries, and the topics of discussion and analysis were the review mechanisms of the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) and the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC). Albania was represented by two people, expert staff from the General Directorate of Anti-Corruption and the Ministry of Interior. The summer school program provided knowledge on the content of the two conventions and how countries prepare for the implementation review process, including the organization of national coordination and cooperation with evaluating countries. Participation in this summer school strengthens professional capacities and supports Albania’s commitments in the framework of anti-corruption reforms and European integration.



Corruption in healthcare as a problem for solution and promotion of its means

**14.07.2025:** The General Directorate of Anticorruption participated in the roundtable organized by the association “Together for Life”, with a focus on the monitoring conducted in Tirana on informal payments in public health centers. Representatives from public institutions, civil society organizations and health sector professionals participated in this activity. The monitoring association presented the findings of the survey and highlighted public concerns related to corruption in the health sector, its impact on access and quality of services, as well as measures that can be taken to address this phenomenon. The importance of increasing institutional transparency, improving reporting mechanisms and citizen awareness was emphasized. The General Directorate of Anticorruption contributed to the discussion by reaffirming its commitment to promoting good governance, the fight against corruption and the protection of citizens’ right to quality, transparent public services provided in accordance with legal provisions and ethical standards. The roundtable was organized within the framework of the project "Out of sight: Informal payments in receiving medical services in Albania", supported by the European Union, repeatedly proving that only cooperation between public authorities, civil society organizations and foreign partners are together in promoting public perception against corruption.

